

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-8, 11-13, 17-20, 22- 25 and 31 were rejected under 35 USC section 102 (e) as being anticipated by Kohler et al US Patent 6,238,027. Claims 9, 10, 21, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carmody US patent 1,368,604.

The claims have been amended in a manner believed to patentably define over the references.

The Kohler et al reference discloses a system for mounting a door to a cabinet, in which a fastening section 28 of a hinge is secured to a side wall 20. The other fastening section of the hinge, shown at 24, is secured within a recessed connection section 17 defined by a vertical frame section 10.1. The fastening section of the hinge 24 includes a support surface 27 and a pair of angled centering surfaces 26. In order to attach the hinge section to the connection section 17, a fastening screw 30 is inserted through a screw mount 25, and is screwed into a hole 18 in the connection section 17 (col. 3., lines 2-10). With this arrangement, the hinge section is secured to the cabinet by a screw-type connection.

Claim 1 has been amended to separately recite a releasable engagement arrangement that is interposed between the mounting member and the structural member of the storage unit. The releasable engagement arrangement is defined as comprising a pair of spaced apart engagement members that are carried by the mounting member. The engagement members are defined as being engageable within a pair of the spaced openings in the structural member. The pair of spaced apart engagement members are further defined as being configured to secure the mounting member to the structural member of the storage unit, to thereby fix the position of the second section of the hinge relative to the structural member of the storage unit.

As noted above, the Kohler et al reference discloses nothing more than use of a screw connection to secure a hinge section to the structural member of storage unit. The screw extends laterally through an opening in the hinge section for engagement within an opening in the structural member. The screw is separate from the hinge section. With this arrangement, the screw must be separately supplied, and thus can be lost or misplaced in the event the hinge section is removed for any reason from the structural member of the cabinet. This is in direct contrast to the subject matter of the present invention, which contemplates a pair of spaced apart engagement members that are carried by the hinge section. With the pair of spaced apart engagement members secured within the openings in the vertical structural member, the hinge section is securely engaged with and retained on the structural member. Furthermore, the connection of the engagement members to the hinge section is such that the engagement members are carried by the hinge section, which ensures that the engagement members cannot be separated from the hinge section and thus lost or misplaced.

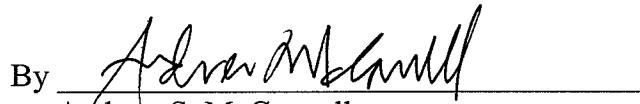
For the above reasons, amended claim 1 is believed to patentably define over the Kohler et al. reference. A review of the remaining references of record similarly fails to show or suggest the claimed subject matter, and accordingly claim 1 is believed allowable. Claims 2-16 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and are believed allowable for the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, as well as in view of the subject matter of each claim.

Independent claims 17 and 23 have been amended along the same lines as amended claim 1. For the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1, it is thus believed that claims 17 and 23 also patentably define over the references, and are allowable. Claims 18-22 and 24-31 depend directly or indirectly from claims 17 and 23, respectively, and are thus also believed allowable.

Applicant's attorney has made every effort to place the application into condition for allowance with claims 1-31, and such action is earnestly requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by phone if questions remain after consideration of this response, or if such would otherwise facilitate prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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